

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **HB 329** HLS 24RS 269

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> April 11, 2024	11:03 AM	<b>Author:</b> MYERS
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Board of Regents		<b>Analyst:</b> Tanesha Morgan
<b>Subject:</b> H.E.R.O. Fund		

FUNDS/FUNDING

EG SEE FISC NOTE

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Provides with respect to the Health Care Employment Reinvestment Opportunity (H.E.R.O.) Fund

Proposed law transfers the authority to administer the H.E.R.O. Fund from the Board of Regents and the Louisiana Health Works Commission to the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH). Proposed law adds new purposes for the fund, including support for dual enrollment and pathway programs, strategies for healthcare organizations to increase career pathways and apprenticeship programs, and raising awareness and reducing barriers to access healthcare programs. Proposed law allows LDH to utilize monies for funding grant proposals supporting collaborations between healthcare industry partners and education programs to increase training opportunities for Louisiana residents in healthcare education programs. Proposed law establishes a process for grant proposals, including notice of funding opportunity, proposal components, evaluation criteria, and approval by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB). Proposed law allows LDH to enter into contracts, memoranda of understanding, or cooperative endeavor agreements to effectuate the provisions of the bill. Proposed law allows the Board of Regents to continue administering funds obligated or awarded before April 1, 2024.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Annual Total</b>						
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law will create an indeterminable workload increase for the LDH to determine how monies in the fund are to be allocated and expended through a multiyear plan for specified purposes. The workload will be commensurate with the amount of monies in the H.E.R.O. Fund, which was approximately \$19 M as of FY 23 Year End. To the extent the LDH may not be able to absorb this planning process into existing staff and budgetary resources, it may require additional resources, assumed in this fiscal note to be SGF. LDH will be required to submit a comprehensive annual report to specified legislative committees, which will also create an indeterminable workload increase.

Proposed law transfers the authority to administer the H.E.R.O. Fund from Board of Regents to LDH and adds new allowable uses of the fund. Broadening the allowable uses of the existing H.E.R.O. Fund monies may lead to those funds being depleted more quickly.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate  
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}  
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House  
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}  
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

**Patrice Thomas**  
**Deputy Fiscal Officer**